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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

### 24-HOUR REPORT

9 SEPTEMBER 2016

#### (U) CALIFORNIA

##### (U) San Diego – Customs Officer Bribed in Smuggling Scheme

(U) A Customs and Border Protection officer has been arrested on suspicion of allowing unauthorized immigrants into the US in exchange for sexual favors and money, federal authorities said. Jose Luis Cota, an officer at the San Ysidro Port of Entry, was arrested Wednesday along with alleged co-conspirators Miriam Juarez-Herrera and Gilberto Aguilar-Martinez. According to a federal complaint, Cota allowed Juarez-Herrera and Aguilar-Martinez, a married Mexican couple, to illegally smuggle people from Mexico into the US through his vehicle inspection lane on four occasions since November. The most recent incident allegedly occurred Wednesday.

SOURCE: 8 September 2016, [The San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

#### (U) NATIONAL

##### (U) District of Columbia – DHS Secretary Confident in Security of US Electoral Infrastructure

(U) Washington – Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson said Wednesday he has “a lot of confidence” in the security of America’s electoral infrastructure despite concerns about intrusions by cybercriminals. Johnson’s declaration, in response to a question from Fox News, follows recent hack attacks on two different state election websites that are believed to have been the work of Russian actors, according to sources. Secretary Johnson emphasized that DHS is up to the challenge of safeguarding state election systems and encouraged election officials to consult the department on cybersecurity matters.

SOURCE: 7 September 2016, [Fox News](#)

##### (U) Florida – Health Officials Confirm 84 Pregnant Women Test Positive for Zika

(U) Tallahassee – Florida health officials confirmed yesterday in their daily report that 84 pregnant women have tested positive for the Zika virus in the state. The University of Miami is taking a leading role in dealing with the Zika virus outbreak, launching the Zika Global Network. Doctors said they expect to see an influx of Florida babies born to mothers who contracted the virus in about five or six months.

SOURCE: 8 September 2016, [Local 10 News](#)

##### (U) New Jersey – Burlington County Sheriff’s Department Announces Terrorism Awareness Program

(U) Westhampton – The Burlington County Anti-Terrorism Task Force will launch a new Terrorism Awareness Program, which aims to address soft target attacks. The program is designed to train first responders in identifying terrorist activities and responding to active shooter situations. The sessions are free and participants will receive training materials to use in their municipalities, according to the sheriff’s department.

SOURCE: 8 September 2016, [Courier-Post](#)

##### (U) North Carolina– Two North Carolina Men Arrested for Part in International Hacker Plot

(U) Charlotte – Two North Carolina men were arrested yesterday for their alleged roles in the computer hacking of several senior US government officials and US government computer systems. Court

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documents claim that Boggs and Liverman conspired with members of a hacking group called “Crackas With Attitude.” At least three other members of the conspiracy are located in the United Kingdom and are being investigated by the Crown Prosecution Service, federal officials said. The group used “social engineering” hacking techniques from about October 2015 to February 2016, including victim impersonation, to gain unlawful access to the personal online accounts of senior US government officials, their families, and several US government computer systems, according to Federal officials. SOURCE: 8 September 2016, [Charlotte Observer](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Afghanistan – US Forces Unsuccessful in Mission to Rescue Kidnapped University Professors**

(U) Kabul – US special operations forces mounted an unsuccessful mission to rescue two American University of Afghanistan professors—one American and one Australian—kidnapped in Kabul last month -- after an earlier mission was aborted when the White House withheld its approval. American assault forces performed a mission where they believed the two hostages were being held but there was no sign of the hostages. At this time the intelligence community is unsure of where the hostages may be or if they are still alive.

SOURCE: 8 September 2016, [Fox News](#)

**(U) Argentina – Argentina Detains Terrorism Suspect Wanted in the United States**

(U) Buenos Aires – A Lebanese citizen wanted in the United States for suspected ties to terrorism was detained at Argentina's international airport on Wednesday. Khalil Mohamed El Sayed tried to enter Argentina with false Paraguayan documents and was flagged on an Interpol list. Information on why El Sayed is a suspect has not been made public. El Sayed is also wanted in Brazil for suspected drug trafficking and arms sales. The tri-border region between Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina has long been a hub for drug and arms trafficking.

SOURCE: 7 September 2016, [Reuters](#)

**(U) France – Paris Terror Suspect to Face Anti-terrorism Judge for Interrogation**

(U) Paris – The only surviving suspect in last November's attacks on Paris is set to face an anti-terrorism judge for interrogation, after refusing past questioning in frustration at 24-hour video surveillance of his prison cell. Salah Abdeslam was jailed after a months-long manhunt following the 13 November attacks on a rock concert, cafes and the national stadium that killed 130. Abdeslam was silent during a hearing in May, and refused to attend a hearing in July. His lawyer argued that the two live video cameras in his cell in Fleury-Merogis prison could cause psychological damage, but France's top administrative authority refused to order them removed.

SOURCE: 8 September 2016, [NY Post](#)

**(U) Syria – US-Trained Tajik Police Sniper Named 'ISIL Minister of War'**

(U) Raqqa – The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has reportedly appointed a US-trained sniper to the position of minister of war as it steps up its campaign of terror. Colonel Gulmurod Khalimov, who received specialist training in the US when he headed Tajikistan's police force, has been promoted to the group's top field commander. His promotion prompted the US State Department to place a \$3 million bounty on his head.

SOURCE: 8 September 2016, [Fox News](#)

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**UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY****(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER****(U) Mexico – Mexico Issuing Transit Visas to African Migrants Flocking to US-Mexico Border**

(U) Mexico City – Mexican immigration authorities say 424 migrants from African countries arrived at the southern state of Chiapas last week. The National Immigration Institute said Tuesday that it has issued them 20-day transit visas that will allow the migrants to reach the US-Mexico border, where they plan to request asylum. Officials call it an unusual surge and say most of the migrants first went to Brazil or Ecuador to start their journey through Latin America. Immigration support staff in Tijuana has been aiding migrants from the Congo, Somalia and Ghana to arrive at the US port of entry at San Isidro. SOURCE: 3 September 2016, [Fox News Latino](#)

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